

The Macdonald FARM Journal



Vol. 21, No. 3

March, 1960



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INDEX — Macdonald Farm

Vol. 21, No. 3

March, 1960

	PAGE
Nematodes	4
Report to the Province	6
Young Colonists	8
To Talk of Many Things	9
Quebec Ayrshire Awards	10
What's Your Beef?	11
Short Story	12
The Country Lane	13
The Better Impulse	14
Month With the W.I.	16
Recipes	19
Nuffield Scholars	22
Editorial	23

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Even fruit trees don't escape these wily worms. This apple tree shows remarkable infestation from nematodes.

Nematodes

Another Pest at the Root of Cropping Problems

By Prof. Ralph H. ESTEY

IN man's continuing battle with agricultural pests, he has been fighting an underground force that has been so subtle he scarcely knew it existed until just a few years ago. It's a fact that innumerable tiny worms, without a brain in their heads, have been eluding the brainiest of our agricultural scientists for decades.

These worms, or nematodes as they are called, are so tiny and so lacking in coloration that they are not easily seen with the unaided eye, but the losses resulting from their feeding habits cost the Canadian farmer thousands of dollars each year. Most of these losses arise from lowered crop yields due to inconspicuous root damage, although the more notorious nematode-induced root disorders are easily seen. Many farmers have seen carrots with masses of tiny root-lets or "whiskers," or they have seen parsnips, turnips, and other plants, with misshapen knotted roots. These are some of the con-

spicuous symptoms that may result from the action of nematodes.

Most of these brainless little worms don't let their presence be known by such tell-tale symptoms. In fact, they are probably delighted that many agriculturalists associate nematodes with these conspicuous root disorders, almost to the exclusion of the much more widespread damage caused by millions of their kind which are quietly working in every acre of every farm and garden in Canada.

Nematodes which feed on the roots of plants have hard, spear-like mouth parts, called stylets, which are designed for piercing and sucking.

Sucking the life out of thousands of root-cells is, however, only a small part of the overall damage which commonly results from the feeding habits of these nematodes. The tiny holes they make in the protective outer layers of roots are like open doors for the entrance of bacteria and fungi which can

cause decay, and various root diseases. In the past, it was the fungi and bacteria which took the blame for reduced yields resulting from root rots, when in reality these losses may not have been nearly so great had it not been for the initial damage caused by nematodes.

The complexity of the relationship between root rots and the many kinds of microbes associated with them is perhaps the main reason why the role of certain root feeding nematodes remained obscure for so long. For many years biologists have known that some nematodes feed on bacteria and fungi. Consequently, whenever these tiny worms were found in the vicinity of diseased roots, it was usually taken for granted that they were just feeding on the organisms which had caused the disease. The few species of nematodes which were known to feed on plant roots usually produced root knots, and the "root-knot nematodes," as

they are called are so different from other plant parasitic species that the latter were not suspected of causing root disorders. The female root-knot nematode goes right inside a tiny rootlet and moves around in there until she locates a good feeding position, near the food conducting tissues of the plant. Once in this position she settles down for the rest of her days. The root soon responds to the presence of "mamma" nematode by producing more and larger cells for her to feed on, thus forming the root "knot." Under such ideal conditions the nematode soon becomes a very efficient producer of eggs, while growing so large and pear-shaped that she couldn't move if she wanted to. It is now known that the vast majority of root feeding nematodes remain outside the roots or, if they enter, they remain slim and able to move about without causing conspicuous swellings.

Female nematodes of all species produce hundreds of eggs, and the larvae which eventually emerge from them look like small versions of the adults. These larvae are unable to feed on plants, or to reproduce, because their mouth parts and sex organs are generally absent, or rudimentary, until they have gone through about four molts, and otherwise reached maturity a process which may take about a month, depending on the kind of nematode, and the environmental conditions.

Adult nematodes are only about 1/64th of an inch long, and most of them resemble very tiny eels. In fact, most farmers in Britain know them as eel worms rather than as nematodes, the more popular term in America. Strangely enough the females dominate the nematode world. In some species they have become so independent that the poor shunned males never develop properly and can never become "father" nematodes. The females of these species are able to raise large families in the complete absence of males. In most species, however, males are present, and apparently necessary for reproduction.

Nematodes are not new agricultural pests. Their presence in the soil has been known for more than a hundred years and the damage they do to the roots of tobacco, cotton, and citrus plants has been known for a long time. Most Canadian agriculturalists, if they

thought of nematodes at all, tended to think of them as problems for southern farmers to worry about, because it was generally assumed that winter weather in Canada was far too cold for these "delicate" little worms. This is just another example of how the nematodes were fooling us, because it has been recently learned that many species do survive the winter in all of our agricultural soils. Knowing this, a number of agriculturalists have been taking a closer look at the root zone of their plants, — and finding a surprising number of plant parasitic nematodes. They have been found to be so numerous in many acres of the older farming regions in eastern Canada that they now have to be considered as an important, but commonly neglected, factor in the abstract entity known as "soil fertility," an entity which is so often thought of solely in terms of soil structure or chemical content.

Knowledge of the damage caused by nematodes has led to the development of various means of combatting this underground foe which competes with man for the fruits of his labour. Holland, Denmark, and Sweden, have laws which prohibit the planting of po-

tatoes on land that has been infested with the golden nematode, a species which is particularly damaging to this crop. In many of the remaining potato growing areas of Europe, the frequency of potato crops on infested land has to be limited to one planting in four to six years. This is why the United States Department of Agriculture and the State of New York have been trying so hard to eliminate, or at least confine, this destructive species since it got into the potato fields of Long Island. However, in spite of the combined efforts of a number of scientists with millions of dollars worth of chemicals and equipment, the golden nematodes are still there. Indeed, nowhere in the world has man succeeded in completely freeing a single farm of these pests once they became well-established.

This is one of the reasons for the flurry of excitement in the Canada Department of Agriculture a few years ago when it was rumored that the golden nematode had been found in Prince Edward Island. Fortunately that was a false alarm, because the nematode which caused all the fuss on "The Island" was soon found to be a relatively harmless species.

The golden nematode happens to be one of the toughest of its kind because the female of this species has evolved a very clever method of protecting her offspring. She does it by keeping a great many eggs inside her body until long after she dies. When death occurs her skin becomes a hard, gold-coloured cyst, containing eggs in various stages of development. It is, of course, this golden cyst which gives these nematodes their common name. The fact that a particularly potent chemical is required to penetrate their cysts, in sufficient strength to kill the developing larvae, is just one of the reasons these nematodes are so difficult to eliminate.

Although there are several species of cyst-forming nematodes in the agricultural soils of Canada, none of them are nearly so destructive or so difficult to control as the golden nematode. In fact, the vast majority of nematodes in this country have no highly developed protective devices and most of them can be controlled by soil fumigation or by the application of one of the granular nematocides which have recently appeared on



Dr. W. B. Mountain, of Harrow, Ont., shows how nematodes can affect onions.

(Continued on page 21)

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

gives a

Report to the Province



Revolution in the Sugar Bush

By Prof. A. R. C. JONES

ONE of the most interesting developments in the harvesting of maple products in recent years is the substitution of plastic materials for the conventional galvanized aluminum spouts, buckets and collecting equipment. With the rapid growth of the plastics industry the manufacturing of sap collection containers and spouts was a "natural" from this versatile material. "The plastics age in sugaring" was ushered in by the plastic sap bag which has found many users; followed by the use of plastic tubing and spouts to carry the sap directly from the tree to the sugar house, or to some field storage reservoir. This development has great possibilities.

Once the pipeline system is installed much of the back-breaking work of gathering sap in deep snow is eliminated. It also permits the opening up of many steep hill-

sides to sugaring which have not been tapped in the past due to difficult and rugged terrain. It is estimated that close to 15 million trees as yet remain untapped in the Province of Quebec due to inaccessibility plus other problems such as farm labour shortages, deep snow at sugaring time, and an increasing trend to mechanization on the farm. Sugaring operations in many areas are out of the question without the services of a valued team.

Plastic tubing greatly reduces the amount of labour required in a sugaring operation, a very important consideration these days. With the right kind of topography a sugar bush owner can rig the system in advance and never leave the sugar house during the season. Periodic inspection of the plastic lines are recommended, however, to ensure that all connections are

maintained and that no damage to tubing by falling branches or from rodents is occurring.

An essential for satisfactory production using the plastic lines is some degree of slope from the sugar bush to the sugar house. If this does not exist, intermediate collection stations have been used to speed up the collection chore and concentrate sap collection to a few areas.

Tap-Hole Sterilizers

Another recent discovery that will lead to increased sap production is the effectiveness of sterilizing agents in the tap-hole. It is known that rinsing spouts in javel water prior to tapping has increased sap yields per tree. This emphasizes the need for cleanliness in the sugaring operation. Further studies in this direction have shown that, by eliminating or



Stringing pipeline — main line is on left. A strong crust always helps!



17-gallon garbage pails are economical field storage tanks for a pipeline system.

reducing the growth of moulds, fungi and bacteria in the tap-hole, sap collection can be greatly increased. This results in a higher quality, lighter sap, particularly in the latter part of the season when it tends to be dark or "buddy." This work holds great promise for maple producers and could be one of the most significant developments in the trade since the turn of the century.

*Proper Management Still
Important*

In spite of the potentialities presented by these promising developments in sap collection and tapping practice, no improved yields can be expected unless such techniques are coupled with a vigorous, well-tended stand of sugar maple. Proper care and cultivation of the sugar bush is still a most essential element in any sugaring operation. The commonest malpractice among sugar makers is to allow cattle to feed in their sugar places. Over 50 per cent of all sugar groves are grazed in the important agricultural counties of Southern Quebec. This fact alone shows how little importance is given to the long term needs of their sugar groves by many Quebec farmers. Unfortunately, cattle find sugar maple one of the most delectable of our native hardwoods, and in a heavily grazed bush it is difficult if not impossible to find any sugar maple 6 feet or larger in the young sapling growth coming up under the mature trees, this generally being replaced by beech, ironwood, hemlock, balsam fir, or other species unsuitable for sugaring. This is a serious matter to any owner interested in a continuing sugar operation.

The improved demand for high quality sugar maple logs for lumber and plywood production is also having an adverse effect on the life of the sugar bush. Heavy and indiscriminate cutting in sugar maple stands encourages the seedling-in of the less valuable aspen, white and grey birch, and balsam fir, and exposes the trees left uncut to depredations by the sugar maple borer, to windfall and breakage, and to sun scald and frost injury. Sugar maple is not as a rule a solitary tree and tends to develop best under the protective shade of more light demanding tree species. Cuttings made to remove the older, mature members in a maple stand should be made with great care so as not to remove more than 25 per cent of the stand in any one operation.



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Future Outlook

The future for sugaring operations in Quebec continues to be favourable considering the market position of provincial production and the high demand that exists for maple products. As is well known, the Quebec maple industry now accounts for close to 90 per cent of Canadian production. Declining syrup production in the Provinces of Ontario and New Brunswick also enhance this trend. Sugar bush owners in Quebec would be well advised to look to their sugar places as maple products continue to be a luxury item much in demand. With the promise of more labour-saving developments taking place in sugar bush management, maple sap will soon be picked up from rural areas in much the same way that fluid milk is now transported from the producer to local dairy plants.

KEEP YOUR CALF CROP HEALTHY

IT'S true that calves born in the barn get more attention than those born on pasture. But

the natural habits are changed when calves are put on twice-a-day routine pail feeding. The result: stomach upset.

Calves normally drink slowly when nursing a cow. But pail-fed calves often gulp milk hungrily after the long wait between feedings. Sometimes they even inhale milk into their lungs.

"Nipple pails are a big help in solving this problem," says Dr. Howard Neely. "Regular feeding is important. And it's best to feed the same amount of milk both night and morning. Keep the milk temperature the same too." Neely points out that one of the common causes of calf scours is over-feeding.

What about colostrum?

The first milk not only contains a lot of the essential vitamins and minerals, but also antibodies which help fight early calfhood diseases. "The calf is born with very few antibodies and if colostrum is not fed, the calf is likely to pick up common infections," states Neely. Losses are highest in calves that don't get colostrum.



Left to right, Hon. J. D. Begin, Provincial Minister of Colonization, Mr. A. Dionne, who bought the grand champion steer for a record price of \$4.20 per lb. and Arthur Larente, of Labelle County, the proud owner.

Young Colonists Show Fine Calves

By O. R. EVANS

THE 8th annual National Salon of Agriculture, in co-operation with the Provincial Department of Colonization, tried an interesting experiment in beef cattle production this year which turned out to be a real success. Last autumn more than 50 well-bred feeder cattle of three breeds were bought on the Montreal market or from Quebec breeders and distributed among young farm boys and girls in several different Colonization districts of the province.

Cost of the calves ranged between \$125 and \$140 each; the young owners paid \$75 and the Department absorbed the rest. In addition they paid the cost of transporting the finished calves and their owners to Montreal. During the feeding period seven of the leading feed companies in Quebec donated feed for the calves and advised the young farmers on their rations.

At the Salon in Montreal the steers were judged by J.A. Tremblay of the Federal Department of Agriculture, and the champions were congratulated by Premier Antonio Barrette, Hon. J. D. Begin, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, and S. C. Barry, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Ottawa.

Later in the week the 50 odd steers were auctioned and a record for Canada was hung up when A. Dionne of Montreal paid \$4.20 per pound for the 1,026 pound grand champion Angus steer raised

by Arthur Larente from Lac St. Paul, Labelle County. Thus Arthur went home with \$4,129.20. Prices obtained for the rest of the 50 steers ranged down to 35½¢ per lb. which still brought its owner \$241.79, and the average price paid for all steers of 53.7¢ per pound was also a record. It meant that many of the youngsters received over \$500 for their calves.

In addition to the money prizes several of the champion feeders won beef heifer calves to take home with them, as a start in raising their own herd of cattle. As a result of this unique experiment the Dept. of Colonization is adding several agronomes to their staff so as to cash in on the revived interest in cattle raising.



The reserve champion Hereford steer was shown by Denise Boyer of Val L'Imoges, Labelle County. She is congratulated by Hon. J. D. Begin, Minister of Colonization.

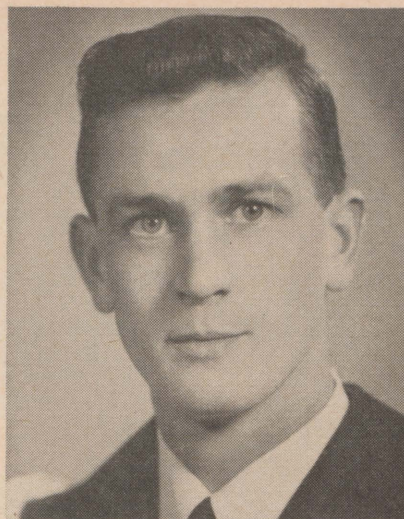


Scene at the 8th Salon of Agriculture as Mr. Leclerc of T. Eaton Co., bought the champion Shorthorn steer, raised by Gaston Barrette, of Rouyn-Noranda; also in the picture are Hon. J. D. Begin, and Dr. Gustave Toupin, president of the Salon.

To Talk of Many Things

By John ELLIOTT

A Timely Quiz on Pasture



Ques. Are pastures important to the farm?

Ans. In recent years there has been an increasing awareness by farmers of the importance of good pasture.

Ques. Why haven't pastures always had this importance?

Ans. Canada has been a land of abundance and farmers had all the land required to graze their animals. With changing times farmers were "forced" to find a way of becoming more efficient and one of the most obvious was pasture improvement.

Ques. How much attention has been given to pasture improvement?

Ans. It has been given considerable attention by Experimental Farms and Agricultural Colleges, but pastures in Canada can still be said to be producing far below their capacity in spite of any improvement.

Ques. Is much care given to pastures?

Ans. Pastures are the most neglected crops on the farm. Often times on the poorest and/or the roughest land.

Ques. What would the advantages be in a pasture program and would it be economical?

Ans. Good pasture is a cheap source of feed. It is cheaper than corn silage and much

cheaper than grains, and it still has a very high food value. It also acts as a means of conservation. Water run off is slowed up due to the root system with the result that erosion is very much lessened. Therefore it is economical from these points as well as being a source of silage and hay.

Ques. Are there different types of pastures?

Ans. There are different types of pastures. The type used will depend on the layout and topography of the farm. It will also be influenced by the area, climate, and soil and the use to which it will be put.

Ques. Do the characteristics of a pasture change from one year to the next?

Ans. Depending on how it was prepared and managed will influence the amount of change. Over or under grazing will have a definite effect. Some grasses can withstand close grazing while others can't. Under grazing may cause the death of shorter growing grasses, the wrong seed mixture, soil condition and climate will influence the change in a sward.

Ques. Can a pasture program fit into a rotation?

Ans. A pasture rotation has proved to work very well. In area where drought may be a hazard the rotated pasture may be essential.

Ques. How much pasture should a farm have?

Ans. The amount of pasture will be calculated on what is intended of it. A good rule of

thumb is to plan for an excess in case of a drought. If in early June the conditions are good the pasture can be cut for high quality grass silage.

Ques. What are some other factors to be regarded in pasture improvement?

Ans. The success of the pasture will be influenced by the amount of investigation put into it. Besides the factors previously mentioned there are those of soil testing for fertilizers and lime application, and the use to best advantage of manure. This does not mean though that once established it will not require any upkeep in regard to plant nutrients.

Ques. Where can information be procured on pasture development?

Ans. The most readily available and closest information is through the county agronomist. The agronomist knows the county and its conditions and will be prepared to discuss any problem and give recommendations. Also a bulletin is available called "Pastures for Quebec," Bulletin No. 22, 1958 Macdonald College. You can write for a copy.

JERSEY RECORD FOR QUEBEC

IN the high records made in the Jersey breed for Canada in 1959, one of the leaders is Wendybrook BR Ivy, a cow bred by Pierre Veillon, Wendybrook Farm, Sweetsburg, Que., and owned by W. S. Taylor, Rothesay, N. B. Ivy went on test as a junior 4 year old and on 3 times milking, in 305 days, produced 12,358 lbs. of milk, 676 lbs. of fat, winning both milk and butterfat honours.

Another winner was Wendybrook Beacon Carina, owned by Pierre Veillon. Carina produced 9,952 lbs. of milk, 550 lbs. of fat, as a junior 4 year old on 3 times milking, leading for both milk and fat for 1959.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Required by National Farm Organization

Successful Candidate will be an Agricultural Graduate of a recognized university or have equivalent qualifications. He will have a general understanding of farm organizational work, particularly as applied to the dairy industry. The man we are looking for must have administrative ability to manage the Head Office in Toronto, and be willing to travel when necessary. Applications must be received by April 10th; duties to commence Midsummer 1960. Apply in writing giving full details of age, education, experience and salary expected to:

Box No. 237,

Macdonald College, P.Q.



Left to right (Back Row), Arthur Dagg, Shawville; Armand Lavoie holding Certificate won by the Research Branch, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Quebec; Allister McArthur, Howick, Quebec; J. Earle Ness, Howick, Quebec; Douglas A. Ness for R. R. Ness & Sons, Howick, Quebec. Front Row, S. Wyman MacKechnie, Wyman, Quebec; Mrs. Lucille Davis, Fulford, Quebec; Prof. L. H. Hamilton representing Macdonald College, Macdonald College, Quebec.

Quebec's Superior Breeder Awards

SUPERIOR Breeder Certificates were presented to breeders of outstanding Ayrshire animals at the Association's Annual Meeting at the Royal York Hotel on February 18, 1960. This is the first time a breeder award has been given by the Ayrshire Association. In order to qualify an Ayrshire breeder must have bred a certain number of animals that meet minimum classification and production standards. These standards are: An Excellent cow who produced 120% or more of BCA; A Very Good cow who produced 130% or more of BCA or a Good Plus cow who produced 140% or more of BCA. A 100,000 lb. cow classified Good Plus or better also qualifies as well as a cow with at least 75,000 lbs. milk in eight lactations and classified Very Good or better. A bull that sires ten daughters of these standards also qualifies as one animal. The number of animals required is 75% of the number of cows a breeder has entered on R.O.P. test.

Eight of the total 17 prize winning breeders were from Quebec Province and qualified for Superior Breeder Certificates.

The Research Branch Farm, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que., required twenty-five cows to qualify. Their application included thirteen cows classified Excellent all of which were high producers. They include Ste Anne Gracieuse de Cervin with a record of 171%

of BCA in milk and 197% in fat and Ste Anne Royale de Liberty with a record of 178% of BCA in milk and 191% in fat.

Macdonald College, Macdonald College, Que., required twenty-five cows to qualify for the Superior Breeder Certificate. Four of their cows, two of which are classified Excellent, produced over 100,000 lbs. milk. They listed four Excellent cows in their application including Macdonald New Charm with a BCA record of 169% in milk and 164% in fat. They have sixteen Very Good cows that qualify, six of which have records with BCA figures over 150% in both milk and fat.

The Terrace Bank herd of J. Earle Ness & Sons, Howick, Que., qualified for the Superior Breeder Award. They required twenty-six cows to qualify. Four of the cows they listed have produced over 100,000 lbs. milk, two of which are Excellent and two Very Good. Thirteen of their cows are classified Excellent and they include Terrace Bank Flossie whose record is 157% of BCA for milk and 171% for fat. Eleven of their cows listed are classified Very Good.

The Burnside herd of R. R. Ness & Sons, Howick, Que., qualified for the Superior Breeder Award. They required thirty-five animals. Their application included nine 100,000 lbs. cows and seven of these were classified Excellent, the remaining two being Very Good. On their application they

had twenty-nine cows classified Excellent and all the remaining cows were classified Very Good. Individual production records included Burnside Appreciation, Excellent, whose record is 162% of BCA for milk and 164% for fat. They also have a bull that qualifies.

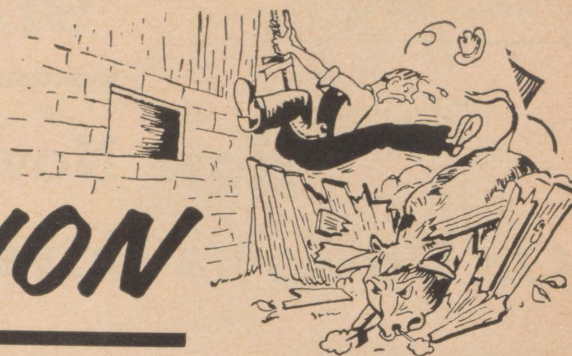
The Cherry Bank of A. E. McArthur, Howick, Que., qualified for the Superior Breeder Certificate by having bred more than the twenty cows required for the herd to qualify. The group listed included five cows, all of which were classified Excellent that produced over 100,000 lbs. milk. On the application there are twenty-two cows classified Excellent. They include Cherry Bank Marina with a record which is 163% of BCA for milk and 154% for fat and Cherry Bank Royal Bernie with a record of 154% of BCA for milk and 156% for fat.

Mrs. Lucille Davis, Fulford, Que., qualified for a Superior Breeder Award. She required seventeen animals to qualify. Her Nether Brae herd has many high producers. Nine of the cows listed on her application form have records exceeding a BCA of 150% and seven of these are classified Very Good. One cow, Nether Brae Princess Etna 7th, has a record with a BCA of 160% in milk and 181% in fat.

The Burnholm herd of Arthur Dagg, Shawville, Que., qualified for a Superior Breeder Certificate. He required thirteen animals in order to qualify. There were eleven Excellent cows listed on his application all with high records. They included a pair of sisters, each with an exceptional high record. Burnholm White Queen has a record with a BCA of 167% in milk and 168% in fat and Burnholm Queen's Own has a record with a BCA of 163% in milk and 164% in fat. There are three cows with over 100,000 lbs. milk in this group.

S. Wyman MacKechnie & Sons, Wyman, Que., qualified for a Superior Breeder Certificate. They required twenty-one animals to qualify their Bonniesshade herd. The group that qualified included four cows who have produced over 100,000 lbs. milk and all are classified Excellent. Fourteen of their cows are classified Excellent. An unusual feature of this group is that no fewer than seven dam-daughter combinations are involved. Individual records included the record of Bonniesshade Pretty Girl, Excellent, with a BCA of 170% for milk and 158% for fat.

Letters for our **BEEF SECTION**



SHORT, BUT VERY SWEET

Dear Mr. Green:

I have been pleased to see the improvements which you have made in the magazine since you took it over. Incidentally, I thought your choice of title for the WI page was quite appropriate!

An Ontario Fan.

We would be pleased and honored if you could be present at this occasion.

Yours very truly,
The Quebec Provincial Plowmen's Association.

J. A. Lafortune

THE MAN BEHIND THE MAN BEHIND THE PLOW

Dear Mr. Green:

In all this mighty discussion about what is to happen to Canada's farmers and the surplus that keeps them near starvation, we hear one awful lot of expert advice and opinion. The efficiency men, the agricultural planning experts, agricultural college professors and dear knows how many civil servants all seem to have had a chance to put forth some wise word of wisdom about the plight of agriculture in this year 1960.

And every new voice which I hear, or every new expert I meet on television makes me wonder just how many agricultural experts we have giving advice for every farmer who actually gets down to the dirty and unprofitable business itself. When we were soldiers marking time making the world safe for democracy and prosperity a few years back, the word somehow sneaked out in spite of the efforts of Army Intelligence, that for every man who fired a gun there were seven behind him who were responsible for such things as telling him how to pull the trigger, how to polish his buttons, how to keep himself clear of lice, dysentery, bad women, etc. . . . Well I guess they never did fill out the list completely.

But I wonder now if it isn't time for some of these smart young politicians in Ottawa who need to make a fuss of some kind to make themselves famous, to start a

probe into the whole structure of that fat and fearless fraternity which are best described as official agriculturists who manage to make a living by telling farmers how to make a living. And tell us how many there are for each farmer they advise.

Not critical, you know. Just curious.

R.G.G. Abbotsford

PLOWS TO MACDONALD

Montreal, Que.

Editor,
Macdonald Farm Journal,

Dear Sir:

We are glad to inform you that the Canadian Plowing Council, in collaboration with the Quebec Provincial Plowmen's Association, agrees to hold its Canadian Championship Match in the Province of Quebec on the Macdonald College Farm next September 28, 29 and 30.

You are aware of the fact that, till now, this match was held in Ontario and the organizers have always made a success of it. If we intend, not to compete with this province, but obtain a similar success, it is because we rely upon the collaboration of the agricultural publications that have always been so helpful.

Monday, February 15, at 8:00 p.m., in the offices of the Cockshutt Plow Co., 5500 Ferrier St., in Ville St-Laurent, the representatives of the different sections, both agricultural and industrial, were invited to a meeting in order to set up the basis of the organization of this agricultural event of great importance.

A MEMO FROM FEDERATION

To Directors of the C.F.A. and Secretaries of Member Bodies:
Re: Government Policy On Sales of Government-held Pork

It has come to our attention in this office that the suggestion is being made in some parts of the trade that government pork disposal policies are forcing reductions in the price of hogs.

The Minister of Agriculture has today repeated assurances given at our Annual Meeting four weeks ago that the policy of the government is to move pork largely into export outlets, and to ensure that any domestic disposal it may undertake will not be in a volume, or in products, which will act to depress the price to the producer. The government will act, the Minister says, to move limited quantities of canned luncheon meat onto the market insofar as this can be done to meet shortages of this product without affecting the prices which can be paid to the producers, but in general does not plan on disposing of its holdings of this product in this way.

It is definitely the case, then, that on the basis of information available to us on government action in this matter, no reduction in hog market prices can legitimately be attributed to government disposal programs.

David Kirk

SHORT STORY

How Now Brown Cow? Or, Do Cows Have It Easier Than People?

By Elizabeth CAYLEY

Some Opinions on a Moo-ooot Question.

WISE WIVES share their husband's interests" womanly magazines constantly urge us, blithely ignoring the problems that this can present. My husband's interests are in cows, and since a child I have found them hard to love.

When my father left the Army and returned with his family to settle down, it was to find that a right of way had established itself across the park directly under our front window. Furthermore, this right of way had become the fashionable Sunday afternoon walk of citizens of a neighbouring town.

From courting couples to grandfathers pushing baby carriages, all halted to gaze in on us. Some even brought their sandwiches which they ate on the grass outside.

"I'll settle their hash," said Father, and he bought a bull. The bull was young and spritely, and it about settled the hash of our family, too.

We couldn't remain incarcerated forever. Someone had to make frenzied forays in search of the mail, the papers, and the provisions that delivery boys dumped at the gate. "Yellow bellies!" said Father.

I was an active little girl, and probably owe my life to an innate fleetness of foot.

By the time I was ten I had been chased up a tree five times, trampled on twice, horned (near misses) twice, toe trodden on once. "Teach you to move faster," said Father unfeelingly.

He certainly closed that right of way, but I never learnt to love cows.

You can't compare old Samson with Bluebell," patiently explains my husband. For she, a Jersey heifer, is his current pride and joy.

So far, sharing his interest in Bluebell (encouraged by chums who assure me that learning to love a two-legged heart throb would be more difficult still), has resulted in neuralgia from my ear being blown down seven times; in the skin being twice rasped off my face by her tongue; and in painful contact made between the base of my spine and the concrete flooring of the barn, due to a gentle nudge from Bluebell. "Look, she's pleased to see you!" said my husband.

Once I even attended a cattle show. Bluebell and her valet, plus brushes, buckets, blankets, mugs and rations, set off at dawn in a bovine palace on wheels. My husband followed closely in the jeep. Hours later I trailed along and even that was too early.

The day was hot, the crowds were thick, the scent of cow lanes could not be ignored. The judge

("A stupid ignorant fellow,") had placed Bluebell fourth. I was dying of thirst, my head ached, the restaurant tent was stuffy, people were lined up waiting, and my feet were killing me. Just as I was within striking distance of the welcome cup of tea, my husband found me. Would you believe it! In another minute I would have missed seeing Bluebell making her debut in the ring!

"How your husband idolises your little daughter," remarked a new acquaintance recently. "I've been hearing about her lovely lemon-coloured hair, her large brown eyes, her affectionate ways, and how she sees him off and welcomes him home."

"Which daughter?" I inquired suspiciously—we have seven.

"I think he called her Bluebell," replied my new acquaintance.

Who would be a cow? Poor dumb things, they lead such restricted lives in their parlours warmed by oil heating and lit by fluorescent strips. They sample the Great Outside only on sunny days, and at the first breath of wind they are driven back, via funnel-shaped draught-proof entrances.

Those of us whose country kitchens are warmed by smoking beasts of stoves and lit by unshaded dangling bulbs, who are forced out in all weathers to feed the pigs and poultry, and whose four-footed friends like nothing better than to trip up their adored owners when the latter are weighed down by pails, may be forgiven for sometimes wondering if a cow's life has not got its points.

The Country Lane

WINTER'S END

The ice is on the ditches yet,
The frost hard-set
Upon the fields,
The morning yields
No sound:
And yet, put ear to ground
Beside this gate and wait . . .
Far off and deep
A little runnel murmurs in its sleep,
Tells how, past winter, primroses will
 come
Above its head,
And fed
By faith enduring, violets bloom.

MARGARET C. GIBBINS

FIRST SNOWDROP

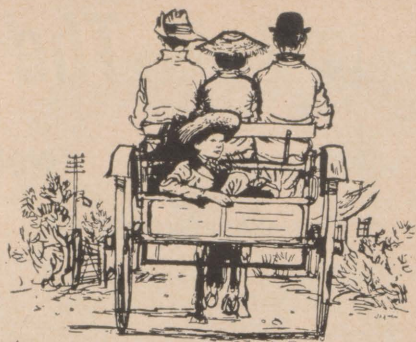
The day seems dark as dusk, the sky
Is thick with shadows scudding by,
Caught on bare trees that whine and wail
Beneath the lashing of the gale.
The earth is sodden, life decayed,
The leaves that Autumn fluttering made
All red and yellow, gather now
Drab as each emptied twig and bough.
But in a corner a green spear
White tipped, has ventured to appear
And challenge with one head-bent bloom
A whole cold world of rain and gloom.
First snow-drop, you are very small,
Yet you are stronger far than all
This death, for certainty you hold
Of Spring, so flourish and be bold!

B. R. GIBBS

CONTENTMENT

Of all the homes in all the world
However grand and fine,
There's only one I want to have
And that's the home that's mine.
Though others' husbands frequently
Are handsome, brave or gay,
I only want the one I've got
Who lives with me each day.

MARY FOREST



THE POTPOURRI JAR

The jar is of turquoise enamel, patterned with white
Pink-tipped petals; it was designed to delight
The fastidious eye, and enclose all the wealth of the
 rose.

Every shade, shell-pink to pomegranate-red,
Layer on layer the perfect petals spread,
Before they could ripen and strew
Lawns cool with the dew.

Fifty years after, no one is left that can know
Who it was gathered them, where they were used to
 grow;
Only their dust remains,
But the potpourri jar retains

Sweetness forever, sweetness to conjure again
Auroral petals, fresh from the sun and the rain,
Gathered by fragile fingers
In gardens where summer lingers.

AUDREY ALEXANDRA BROWN

SCENE IN THE SUN

Impudent chatter,
Saucy frisk of a tail,
Bright-eyed alertness,
On stone wall or rail.

Inquisitive daring,
Questioning fright,
A little brown chipmunk
Flashes from sight.

BERTHA R. HUDELSON

BIRD'S PHILOSOPHY

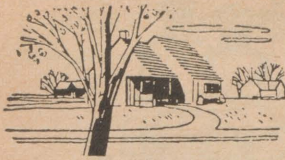
The robin cam to the wren's nest,
An' keekit in, an' keekit in:

"O weel's me on your auld pow,
Wad ye be in, wad ye be in?"

Ye'se ne'er get leave to lie without
And I within, and I within,

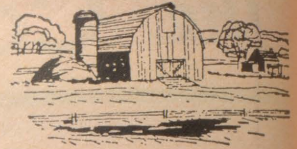
As lang's I hae an auld clout
To row ye in, to row ye in."

THE SCOTS MUSICAL MUSEUM, 1797



The Better Impulse

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF QUEBEC



OFFICE HAPPENINGS

CHAIR SEATS—Anyone entering the Tweedsmuir Contest for Hooked Chair Seats may receive some instructions in hooking by writing the QWI office for the leaflet. CAC—Note: All membership fees now go to Mrs. J. Ossington, 16 Lansdowne Ave., Granby, Que.

Notes from here and there

INDIA—The cloth for saris is handmade and the weavers never make a mistake in pattern or color, although many of them can neither read nor write.

From (The Countrywoman.)

A Homemaker's Guild (USA) has helped put a Korean girl through University in Home Economics. Graduating in 1957 she is now working to help her people. The Guild is at present assisting another girl in the same way.

At the ACWW Conference: When one non-Christian girl was asked if she realized that the Sunday service to be held in St. Giles would be a Christian one, she replied: "There is only one God. We call Him by different names and worship Him in different ways. If the Scottish Rurals have arranged for the Conference to worship Him at St. Giles, then that is where we will worship Him."

(Continued on page 18)

A GOOD MEETING

By Joyce GILCHRIST
Publicity Convenor

A good meeting has been defined as one containing lively, vigorous discussion, where you come away stimulated, hungry for more information, and full of new ideas. All this can certainly be said of the Semi-Annual Board meeting of the Q.W.I. which was held at the Y.W.C.A. in Montreal, on Jan. 29-30. Mrs. G. Harvey, president, welcomed those present, and asked that each one stand and identify herself. A moment of silence was observed in memory of departed members.

Several items of business were dealt with, before the Joint Conference with the Montreal Council of Women. Miss McOuat gave information on the course on Nutrition, that she will give at the Indian Reservation in Maniwaki; a letter of thanks was received from the Montreal Council of Women for the book "Fifty Years of Achievement," donated to them by the Q.W.I. Trading stamps were discussed by Mrs. Ossington, and Miss Holmes stated that the new Program Manual had been sent out to all branches.

We were pleased to hear that an alternative route had been de-

cided for the eight lane highway, that had been threatening the Morgan Arboretum.

In her progress report, Mrs. Harvey told of an extremely busy schedule, with many duties accomplished on behalf of the Q.W.I. An increase in membership was good news. Five new branches have been formed, and two branches disbanded. Miss Holmes asked that the week, and day of meetings be included in programme material sent in, and also mentioned the need of good, clear pictures for Macdonald Farm Journal. Our participation in the Journal was fully discussed, and the subject will be further pursued in June. It is hoped that opinions and ideas from the branches will be available then, also two guest speakers.

Reports were presented by the Handicraft Technicians, Miss McOuat and Miss Runnells, and the report of Miss King was read in her absence.

Mrs. B. Turner, J.W.I. Supervisor, gave her report.

The Joint Conference, once again proved of great value to both groups. The meeting, had both Mrs. W. Wilson and Mrs. G. Harvey as Chairmen, and many topics and problems of mutual interest were discussed. Open type penal



Members of the Lochaber Women's Institute shown at their Christmas meeting.

institutions were discussed by Mrs. Sampson, who gave as an example, the open prison at Valleyfield.

The subject of residential requirements for Old Age Pensioners, received sympathetic hearing; Mrs. Sampson also reported on the laxity of the law, in regard to dangerous weapons.

Mrs. Swift spoke on Air and Water Pollution, and Mrs. Holmes, Q.W.I. Welfare and Health Convenor, dealt with the raising of exemption of earnings of needy mothers, and the right of mothers to sign for surgery for children.

Mrs. E. Gilchrist, Publicity Convenor, read two resolutions, passed at the 1959 Convention, with reference to incorrect English, in legal documents, and Tourist literature. Further information on this will be passed on to the Montreal Council of Women. Tea and cookies, served by the Q.W.I. made a pleasant ending to this combined session.

Friday evening, Mrs. H. Ellard was Chairman at the meeting. Madame LeBeau brought greetings from the Dept. of Agriculture, and also expressed her pleasure at being present. The financial report was given by Mrs. Cooke, followed by the reading of the correspondence, and the roll call.

The discussion and reports on Provincial projects followed. The C.A.C. report was given by Mrs. Ossington, who said that she would do her best to serve both producer and consumer. Mrs. H. Ellard, an executive member of the Canadian Broadcasting League, gave a fine report of its activities.

Mrs. G. Parsons, said that some information was still required for the Life Membership book, and ideas for the binding of this book were given.

Miss Holmes said that a questionnaire for the Bureau of Statistics had been filled in, listing bursaries and scholarships given by the Q.W.I.

Mrs. Watson reported on the Hallowe'en Shell-Out, and UNICEF cards, and introduced the UNESCO Gift Coupon Plan No. 400-A project on Adult Education, carried on under the Extra-Mural Dept. of the University of the West Indies. Mrs. E. Gilchrist, told of progress so far in the Radio and T.V. Evaluation Survey. The winning entries in the Tweedsmuir Competition were listed by Mrs.



Three ladies with long services records, Mrs. F. Carmi, Mrs. W. Kennedy and Mrs. Ira Merrifield, were awarded Life Memberships at Eardly.

Ossington, who also gave details of the new competition. Pamphlets on hooked rugmaking will be available, and other details have gone out to the branches. Mrs. Rember spoke of Highway Safety, and the study of French. French classes are available from October to February, and application for courses should be made through the local School Board.

The purchase of the Adelaide Hoodless Home was discussed. Each member in Canada will be asked to contribute 10 cents, towards the cost. "Adelaide Hoodless Hasti-Notes," were shown as a way of raising the money, and creating publicity for this National undertaking.

Much work has been done on plans for the Jubilee Celebration of 1961, and Mrs. Palmer expressed the thanks of the committee to all those who have assisted. Proceedings will take place in the Auditorium, and an illuminated map of the Province, will be lent by the Dept. of Mines and Forests.

Mrs. Pearson will be in charge of Publicity, and every possible outlet will be used. Mrs. Bronson reported on the various Jubilee souvenirs, that had been suggested: a plate, pottery, a notebook, spoon, a pin, and a cup and saucer.

On Saturday morning, Mrs. Ossington was chairman. Mrs. Ellard gave an excellent report of the A.C.W.W. Conference in Edinburgh. Especially mentioned were

the importance of Pennies for Friendship, the Lady Aberdeen Memorial Scholarship, and the kindness and hospitality, of Scottish women. The A.C.W.W. report was given by Mrs. Harvey, and that of the F.W.I.C. by Mrs. Ossington.

We were delighted to have two guest speakers present, to tell us of the World Refugee Year, Mrs. Hart, past president of the National Council of Jewish Women, and Mr. Young, of the United Nations Association. This association is sponsoring the campaign in the Montreal area, with a target of \$250,000.

The tentative schedule for County meetings was announced, and details discussed with the County presidents concerned.

The Leadership Training Course outline was given, with both Beauty Culture and Horticulture on the agenda, as well as tile decorating.

"Bread Upon The Waters," will be the theme for the Convention, to be held June 21-24, 1960. Dining facilities will not be available at the College, so transportation will be provided to Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Some girls can stand a man with a will of his own—as long as she's the principal beneficiary.

The Month With The W.I.

JUST 72 branches reported this month, an improvement but not yet good enough. All branches mentioned donations to the Adelaide Hoodless Home project, and the Radio and T.V. survey. New programmes are being prepared, and applications for courses by the Q.W.I. Technicians, are being sent in.

ARGENTEUIL:

ARUNDEL held a "blind auction." BROWNSBURG observed two minutes' silence in remembrance of the late Mrs. C. Vary. Saw a film on Gift Wrapping, and slides of Britain. Sent a gift to a member on her 80th birthday. DALESVILLE entertained ladies from Brownsburg W.I. and heard a talk on "How To Care for the Sick in the Home." FRONTIER heard Mrs. McPhee speak on "The Way of Life in Rural Scotland." Silence was observed in memory of the late Mrs. J. Murdoch, who was Frontier's first president and a life member. Mrs. A. Graham described her trip to the W.C.T.U. convention in Mexico. The roll call gave many laughs, on the subject, "A Home Made Verse About the W.I." JERUSALEM-BETHANY collected food and clothing for a family who suffered loss by fire; sent a donation to the Lampada committee. LAKEFIELD entertained the County President. LACHUTE had Dr. Suzanne MacKimmie as guest speaker, her subject: "Citizenship and Immigration." MILLE-ISLES Discussed "How to Prevent Accidents," also exchanged cookie recipes. MORIN HEIGHTS members donated \$1 each towards the Home for Senior Citizens. PIONEER held a sewing bee to make baby clothes for the U.S.C. Mrs. G. Leggett spoke on the work of the Cancer Society; cotton was donated for dressings. Sent donations to the proposed Home for the Aged, and the Retarded Children's School. UPPER LACHUTE-EAST END held a Grandmothers' Night; a poem was read, comparing Grandmother's duties in the home, to those of the modern housewife. All branches in this County report work on the Radio and T.V. survey.

BONAVENTURE:

BLACK CAPE welcomed two new members, and added to the treasury by catering at the Artillery Ball. The Sick Committee report busy term. GRAND CASCAPEDIA named a New Year's resolution for roll call, and saw three films. MARCIL will serve soup at the Shigawake-Port Daniel School, Mrs. L. Hayes and Mrs. J. Walker are in charge of the project. Miss B. Almond, R.N. County Health Nurse, was guest speaker. MATAPEDIA report a new member, a School Fair committee appointed, and seeds ordered. Discussed National Health Week, and the World Refugee Year, and appointed a member to attend the Campbellton Film Council Meeting. PORT DANIEL discussed the Tweedsmuir Competition, W.I. seals, and a loom for Junior W.I. work. Mrs. D. Sullivan read a paper, "Time is What You Make It, But the Cows Come First!" RESTIGOUCHE had a profitable roll call: "Tell Your Age Or Pay 10¢," the majority paid the penalty!

BROME:

ABERCORN discussed the Tweedsmuir Competition, and prepared a new programme. AUSTIN discussed a

new programme. KNOWLTON'S LANDING sent flowers to the sick, and asked each member to donate an apron, for a summer sale. SOUTH BOLTON prepared their new programme.

CHATEAUGUAY-HUNTINGDON:

AUBREY-RIVERFIELD presented a Life Membership, and completed a quilt. DEWITTVILLE had a talk on picture framing and hanging. DUNDEE enjoyed a talk on Irish music, and the origin of some of the songs, and had a sing song. HEMMINGFORD had a talk and film on "Winter Driving" by a Bell Telephone representative. HOWICK members brought in 60 quilt blocks; saw a color film, and heard a talk on a trip to Scotland. Bought Valentines to be sent to the Children's Hospital; and saw a demonstration on Valentine cake making. HUNTINGDON Brought Valentines and sent them to shut-ins. This branch sponsored an evening program, with Dewittville, and enjoyed the talk and film on "Winter Driving." Sent cancer dressings to Montreal, and are working on layettes for Korea. ORMSTOWN had an excellent roll call: "How Best to Impress the Public with W.I. Work." (I would like to have heard some answers). Discussed "Italians in Canada," and "Health Week," and "Potatoes—Their Food Value, and Various Ways to Serve Them."

COMPTON

BURY answered the roll call with cotton for cancer dressings, brought articles for layettes for Arab refugee babies. Read articles on "Agriculture in the Yukon and Northwest Territories," and "World Refugee Year." CANTERBURY discussed funny incidents behind the scenes in W.I. work, for inclusion in the Jubilee Programme. Two members a week will cook for a sick member. COOKSHIRE Brought cotton for cancer dressings, and knitted squares. Talks were on F.A.O.; work done by UNICEF in Africa, the local library, conservation; the Health League, and the Home for Retarded Children in Dixville. Saw Pictures of Lady Hildred's visit to Cookshire. Lady Hildred belongs to Frencham W.I. in England, the link W.I. of Cookshire branch. EAST ANGUS answered roll call with an item from "Do's and Don'ts." Held a paper drive, and will apply for a cooking course. Reports were given by all Convenors. EAST CLIFTON sent clothing to the Unitarian Service Committee, and the Cecil Memorial Home. Made donations to the Service Fund, and the East Clifton Cemetery Fund, in memory of deceased members. SAWYERVILLE had a contest on hats made from something unusual. Plan a course in metal work and belt making. SCOTTSTOWN Donated funds to the school for the children's soup. Made Red Cross swabs and brought articles for Arab Baby bale.

GASPE:

YORK The Welfare and Health Convenor spoke on Polio, and the death rate due to highway accidents. An interesting letter was read from a W.I. friend in

Western Canada, (she was the second President of Gaspé County), telling of the Alberta Jubilee Convention.

GATINEAU:

EARDLEY celebrated their 41st Anniversary, with Mrs. J. Kennedy cutting the cake. Read articles on "Spot and Stain Removers," and "Down On the Farm." Enjoyed a social evening, and a "Girls' Scrambled Names Contest, won by Mrs. Kennedy. HURDMAN HEIGHTS The Education Convenor lead a discussion on "Homework for School Children," Welfare and Health Convenor discussed "New Help For the Heart," and "Breaking the Nose-Drops Habit," Home Economics Convenor's subject was, "Dangers of Electrical Appliances." Welcomed two new members, and entertained the 4H Club with a sleigh ride and wiener roast. Mrs. J. Fares showed movies of her recent trip to Florida. KAZABAZUA read the Outline on Publicity, and discussed the Aylmer and Maniwaki Fairs. LOWER EARDLEY saw films of Jamaica, shown by Mr. J. Davis. Read papers on "Keep Your Eye on the Program Goal," "Now is the Time To do It," and "Borrow When You are Young." Members plan to attend the Dominion Provisioners Freezer Demonstration. RUPERT held a successful New Year's Eve dance. Made plans for the School Fair, and had a quiz on "Medicine and Hygiene." WAKEFIELD Mr. G. Parker, Mr. L. Lafleur, and Mrs. D. Giggie, took part in a panel discussion on Trading Stamps. WRIGHT named their favourite news reporter for roll call; all members will subscribe to the Federated News. Held a panel discussion on the Radio and T.V. survey, and the History of the Q.W.I. Celebrated 21st Birthday with a Valentine Cake.

MEGANTIC:

KINNEAR'S MILLS served at a church anniversary supper, and sent cotton to the Cancer Society. Made donations to the local skating rink, and towards school prizes. Roll call was a question box; planned a card party.

MISSISQUOI:

COWANSVILLE Mrs. S. Sandison gave a talk on Mexico, followed by an interesting discussion on Mexico's culture, agriculture and climate. Mrs. Windsor spoke on the great possibilities of T.V. in our homes and for education. FORDYCE heard reports from all convenors, and papers on the F.W.I.C. and A.C.W.W. Held a quiz on nutrition, with Mrs. Longeway the winner. Cowansville's president attended the reorganization meeting of the Missisquoi Historical Society, and several W.I. members are on the Board of Directors.

PONTIAC:

BEECH GROVE had a cookie and tea biscuit contest; discussed the fair exhibit, decided to pay for a light at the skating rink. BRISTOL had a programme on Greenland, and decided to take a sewing course. CLARENDON heard a guest speaker, on "The Attitude of Residents of the St. Lawrence Seaway, Towards the Forced Move." Will apply for a millinery course. FORT COULONGE Each member told of an outstanding event of 1959, and paid 1 cent for each year of her age. Heard Interesting Papers on "Jury Duty, Do Women Who Avoid it Shirk a Special Responsibility?" and "Buying a Sweater." Slides of Canadian scenes were shown. QUYON read an item from the Hand-

book for roll call, and had a study of "Do's and Don'ts." (This branch should be well informed). Bridge and Euchre parties are planned, each member to raise \$1. Plan a millinery course. SHAWVILLE have a Bridge Marathon under way, and plan to exhibit at Quyon and Shawville Fairs. Held a quiz on the Handbook and "Do's and Dont's." The Welfare and Health Convenor stressed the importance of National Health Week. WYMAN enjoyed a talk by a local nurse.

QUEBEC:

VALCARTIER plan a social evening for W.I. members and their husbands.

RICHMOND:

CLEVELAND heard a paper on "Your Health is Our Business," and a contest on hats made from kitchen utensils caused much amusement. DENNISON'S MILLS had a Vice-President's night. Mrs. A. Fulker gave an amusing reading on the "Return of Articles Left Behind by Visitors." "Famous People Contest" was won by Mrs. E. Carson. MELBOURNE RIDGE have brought their branch history up to date, and look forward to a rug making course and a rummage sale. RICHMOND HILL brought a loaf of bread for roll call, prizes were given and the bread sold. Held a white elephant sale, proceeds to aid Retarded Children. Sent donations to the March of Dimes and the Cancer Society. RICHMOND YOUNG WOMEN'S held a discussion on rug-hooking. Drawings for a quilt and a car rug are planned. SHIPTON talked about New Year Resolutions, and brought articles made from something old. Members feasted on baked beans and brown bread. (Sounds Good). SPOONER POND discussed Civil Defence, C.A.C., Good Health, and the Adelaide Hoodless Home. (A good variety). A drawing for a cushion and footstool, was won by a guest. WINDSOR MILLS held a successful food sale, and donated \$10 to the Home and School Association, towards the annual students' trip to Montreal.

ROUVILLE:

ABBOTSFORD the Welfare and Health Convenor gave a talk, and had a quiz on First Aid. Members assisted with the March of Dimes, and gave a donation to the School lunchroom.

SHEFFORD:

GRANBY HILL presented a new idea for W.I. work, for roll call. GRANBY WEST planned a First Aid Course, and heard Mrs. Ossington speak of her trip to the A.C.W.W. Conference in Edinburgh. WATERLOO-WARDEN gave a prize to the youngest Grandmother. Pictures of a trip to Europe were shown, and "Speaking French" is to be a part of every program, (A good idea, and also a Provincial project).

SHERBROOKE:

ASCOT completed the Radio and T.V. Survey, and donated to the McLennan Travelling Library, and the 4H Club. LENNOXVILLE enjoy a Handicraft afternoon each week. Exchange letters were read from Northern Ireland and Scotland; gave clothing and money to the Sherbrooke Welfare Society. MILBY saw a Metal Work demonstration. Worked at the Cancer Dressing Station, and sent a subscription to the Star Weekly to a shut-in.

The Month With the W.I. (Continued from page 17)

STANSTEAD:

AYER'S CLIFF Mrs. G. McHarg, County President attended the Semi-Annual Board meeting in Montreal. BEEBE presented books to each grade of the local school, for Citizenship. A talk on Citizenship was given over Radio Station W.I.K.E. Newport, Vt. HATLEY had a rug making demonstration, and held a silent food sale. HATLEY CENTRE are holding card parties. Assisted a family who suffered loss, by fire,

and sent flowers to friends in hospital. MINTON sent baby clothes to the U.S.C. and a box to the Cecil Memorial Home. NORTH HATLEY held a supper meeting, and a round table discussion on the Declaration of Human Rights. Donated money to provide hot lunches for a school child. STANSTEAD NORTH enjoyed a dinner meeting, and a talk by a local doctor. TOMIFOBIA held a dinner meeting.

OFFICE HAPPENINGS

(Continued from page 14)

USA—National Farm and Garden collects handwork from other lands on consignment as an international project. The maker receives 75 percent of the sale money, while 25 percent is retained to be used as gifts from Farm and Garden to other countries.

From (The Countrywoman.)

ENGLAND— At the English WI's Denman College, the father and children may go along too, when mother takes a course. The children are looked after and sometimes father also takes a course.

IRELAND— a poem from the Vinecash WI—suits Canada, too:

SECLUDED RENDEZVOUS

*When wintry breezes chill
the air*

*And fires at home burn
warm and bright,*

*A band of women make their
way*

*To a lonely rendezvous at
night.*

*They come from far, they
come from near,*

*By car, by bicycle—in
might.*

*What brings these valiant
women forth*

*To brave the terrors of the
night?*

*They meet in a secluded spot,
...Tho' secrecy is not their
aim.*

*The WI is on its way —
It's meeting night again.*

*In Vinecash, when lights are
high,*

*To cheer the hearts of
young and old*

*With talks and views on this
and that,*

*And cups of tea, my tale is
told.*

OUR FAR AWAY SISTERS . . .

An interesting feature of the Edinburgh Conference was a symposium with speakers from Scotland, Australia, the Netherlands, Malaya, Ghana and the United States. Each was asked to describe what they considered the most worthwhile project of their organization.

Scotland — the Travelling Van which carries courses in handicrafts throughout the country. Australia — has the famous Branches of the Air, where members hundreds of miles apart, sit at their radios for their meetings. The Netherlands — after the floods of 1953 a trained adviser helped the rural in the refurnishing of their homes. The service was so popular an advisory bureau for Interior Decorating continues the good work. The Malaya WI's are very proud of their Headquarters. After only 7 years they have a membership of 12,000. Their HQ consists of offices, meeting halls and dormitories for members who come to take courses in cooking, nutrition (which is of utmost importance) and Malayan cultures. Ghana — work in the villages where the women are taught sanitation, hygiene, cooking, nutrition, child care, etc. United States — this group are stressing Traffic Safety, with a three year program.

. . . AND NEARER HOME

ACCORDING to a U. S. survey, a man is three times as safe working in a factory as on a farm. This must prove the need for more attention to Farm Safety programs.

From the Ontario WI magazine, Home and Country, notes on a panel discussion at Ontario's first Safety Conference where the pan-

elists were, a farmer's wife and extension worker in the WI, a Public Relations Officer in the WI, and a nurse doing extension work with the WI.

The members in the panel first discussed the HOME. They took each room in turn, pointing out hazards: polished stairs, toys left in halls, etc.; such things as: workbaskets with scissors and needles, open electrical outlets, open fireplaces, cleaning fluids, matches, handles of saucepans on stoves, and medicines all within reachable distance of small fingers.

COMMUNITY. In discussing safety in the community the panelists advocated the sponsoring of swimming lessons, water safety and artificial respiration instruction, and safe places of play. One project being investigated by the Junior Farmers was a blood testing campaign so that each would carry a card giving their blood type in case of accident. The Juniors also met at one another's farms, marking safety hazards.

On the FARM: uncovered wells and drinking troughs; rakes, forks and nails left lying around; broken ladders, etc. Mr. Eugene Lemon, a Director of the Soil and Crop Improvement Association, gave an example of carelessness in operating a machine. Mr. Lemon explained that during the war when help was hard to get and he had continued at the threshing machine when overtired, as a result he lost an arm. "Don't operate a tractor for more than two hours at a time." Mr. Lemon said. "Get off, walk across the field, observe, and rest. If I had done as much thinking before my accident as I have done since, it never would have happened."

RECIPE PAGE

March Menu Magic

NCESSITY has been responsible for many unusual discoveries, including enticing culinary creations which evolved when it was essential to make a little of something good go a long way. Stuffings fall into this category. Yet we seldom think of them as "stretchers" any more. For example, a baked stuffed fish is a delicacy to remember. And this taste treat needn't be limited to a whole fish. Fish fillets and steaks baked sandwich-style with a piquantly flavored stuffing are attractive and delicious. When using fish steaks choose ones about the same size so they will cook evenly and can be cut into equal portions for serving.

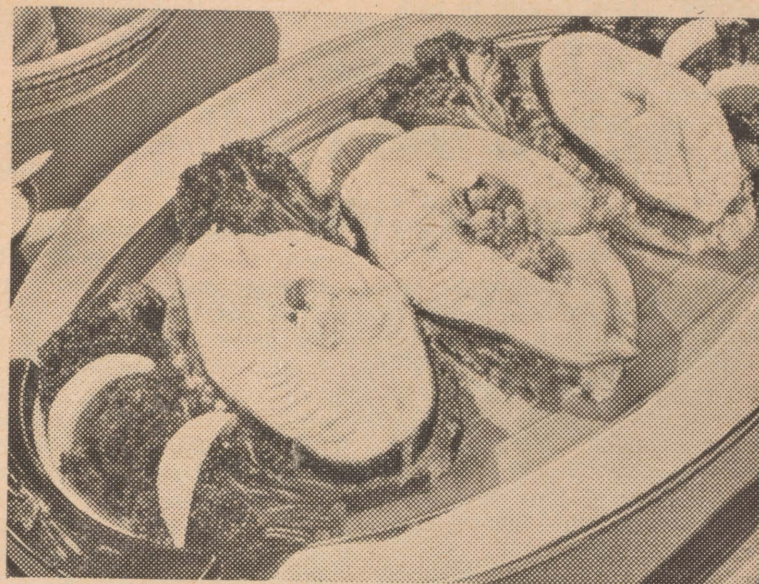


Photo courtesy Fisheries Association of B.C.

BAKED STUFFED HALIBUT STEAKS

- 1-1/2 to 2 pounds halibut, salmon, or other fish steaks
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms (optional)
- 1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup finely chopped parsley (optional)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon thyme
- Heavy cream or top milk.

Sauté onion in butter or margarine. Add mushrooms, breadcrumbs, parsley, salt, pepper and thyme. Blend thoroughly and moisten with a little heavy cream. Grease a baking dish and place half of the halibut steaks in the bottom. Arrange stuffing on top and cover with remaining steaks. Secure with toothpicks. Brush with melted butter, season with salt and pepper. Bake in preheated very hot oven (450 deg. F.) allowing ten minutes per inch thickness of steaks, i.e. two steaks plus filling, until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Curried Pork and Rice

- 3 pounds pork shoulder
- 2 cups chopped onion
- 1 clove garlic, crushed or chopped
- 1 large bay leaf
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 to 2 tablespoons curry
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon thyme

- 3 to 4 cups hot water
- 1 cup uncooked rice

Remove rind and bone from meat. Cut meat into 1" cubes. Lightly grease large frying pan, and put in enough meat to cover bottom of pan and brown well on all sides. Repeat with remaining meat.

Transfer meat to a kettle. Drain fat from frying pan, add about 1/2 cup water to pan, bring to a boil and pour this over meat. Add bones and rind, onions, bay leaf and garlic. Combine salt, curry, pepper and thyme and sprinkle over top. Pour in enough hot water to just cover.

Cover kettle tightly, bring to a boil and simmer until meat is tender, about 45 minutes. Add rice, cover and continue cooking without stirring until tender, about 20 minutes. Remove bones and rind before serving. 6 servings.

Quick Raisin Rice Pudding

- 3/4 cup packaged precooked rice
- 1/4 cup sugar
- dash nutmeg
- dash cinnamon
- 1/2 cup seedless raisins
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 cups milk
- 2 slightly beaten eggs

In a saucepan, combine rice, raisins, sugar salt and spices. Add milk. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil. Remove from heat, stir small amounts of mixture into eggs; return to remaining mixture. Cover

tightly; let stand 45 minutes, or until rice is tender and custard is set. Chill, if desired. (6 servings).

EVER-READY MIX FOR TEA BISCUITS, PANCAKES, AND MUFFINS

THIS ever-ready mix is easy to prepare, quick and easy to use.

Ingredients called for are:

- 6 cups of sifted pastry flour
- 6 teaspoons double-acting baking powder
- 3 teaspoons of salt
- 1 cup or half a pound of shortening.

The method follows:

1. Measure 3 cups of the sifted flour into sifter. Add 3 teaspoons of baking powder and 1-1/2 teaspoons of salt. Sift dry ingredients into a large bowl.
2. Repeat (1) with remaining ingredients.
3. Cut in fat with pastry blender or two knives until mixture resembles coarse meal.
4. Store in two one-quart jars. Cover with two thicknesses of wax paper, held in place with the metal screw-top. Keep in a cold place.

This mixture keeps well for at least four weeks. In fact, if a shortening which does not require refrigeration is used, the mix may be stored on a cupboard shelf for at least twelve weeks.

To make tea biscuits, use two cups of the above mix and one-half cup of milk.

HONEY IS NATURAL SWEET GOOD SOURCE FOOD ENERGY

HONEY, which is sold in both granulated and liquid form, has approximately the same sweetening power as sugar but in addition contains moisture. Honey is the only natural sweet and a good source of food energy.

Since honey contains water, it is necessary, when replacing one cup of sugar in a recipe by one cup of honey, to reduce the liquid by approximately one-quarter of a cup. Honey is added with the liquid ingredients in a recipe. For baked products, liquefy honey by heating over warm water (not over 140°.) before measuring. Greasing the measuring utensil lightly prevents the honey from sticking and being wasted. Honey should not be stored in a refrigerator.

Besides its usefulness as a sauce for fresh fruits, fruit salads, ice cream, pancakes or waffles, steamed puddings and gingerbread, variety may be achieved by combining honey with lemon or lime juice, as well as with nuts, fruits or coconut. As a spread for bread, toast, biscuits, muffins, waffles and pancakes, honey may be mixed with butter if desired. For use as a sweetener in cold beverages or punches, blend the honey first with a little hot water, to make a syrup, then chill. In meringue topping, allow a quarter cup of honey to one stiffly beaten egg white. Serve on a warm cake dessert or a one-crust pie. In cakes and cookies, replace no more than half the sugar with honey and make the necessary reduction in liquid. Honey tends to keep baked products moist.

TOMATOES HIGHLY REGARD- ED SUPPLY VITAMIN C ALL YEAR

TOMATOES are considered the best all year round source of Vitamin C grown in Canada. Factory canned tomatoes and tomato juice provide almost as much Vitamin C as fresh ones. Consequently, even when the season of fresh, home-grown tomatoes is over, an inexpensive, rich source of that vitamin is still readily available.

While most people associate Vitamin A with the yellow-colored vegetables such as carrots, squash and sweet potatoes, tomatoes have a good supply of this vitamin too. Actually, there is an orange color in tomatoes but the red color hides it, so Vitamin A is present even though it can't be seen.

Canned tomatoes are a welcome vegetable just as they come from the can, or heated and seasoned to taste. And they combine well with meat or macaroni main dishes.

LOOK AFTER LILIES FOR EASTER BLOOMING

WITH Easter not until the middle of April this year, don't forget to tend to potted bulbs.

During growth, provide plenty of light and a moist soil. Until the small buds start to form, light spraying with a syringe is beneficial; after bud set, moisture around the buds may cause rot. When the plants are six inches high, feed them with a complete soluble fertilizer, or a light nitrogen fertilizer such as ammonium sulphate, every two or three weeks.

When the buds are just visible, the plant requires five weeks to flower if grown at 60°F. When the buds start to bend over, two weeks elapse until bloom. If the plants are late, raise the temperature to 65° or even 70°F. Blasting or drying of the unopened flowers, is caused by too high a temperature or too dry an atmosphere. Splitting of the flower may be due to a severe check in growth.

After flowering, the bulbs are useless for forcing again. However, if the bloom is cut off and the bulbs are planted outdoors after frost, they may bloom again in the fall and sometimes will winter over if protected.

DAY-TO-DAY STORAGE IMPORTANT TO VEGETABLES

IF vegetables cannot be cooked as soon as purchased, they need to be properly stored. A little special care in storage will help to retain the texture, flavor and food value of vegetables.

For temporary storage, such vegetables as cauliflowers, corn and peas should be left in their natural state—cauliflower in surrounding green leaves, corn in the husks, peas in the pods. It is advisable to store root vegetables with tops removed, since moisture may be drawn from the roots to the leaves. Lettuce, spinach, chard and celery are best trimmed and washed before storage.

Even vegetables which do not spoil quickly are best stored in a cold place. At room temperature many vegetables lose their vitamin C rapidly. The crisper of the refrigerator is a convenient storage for asparagus, beans, peas, tomatoes and leafy green vegetables. Cellophane bags can be used to advantage for covering many vegetables. Onions, dried beans and dried peas should be stored in a dry place.

Keep canned vegetables cold but avoid freezing, which impairs the palatability.

Frozen vegetables should be kept in the freezing compartment until ready for use and cooked in the frozen state. Do not re-freeze thawed vegetables.

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NEMATODES . . .

(Continued from page 5)

the market. Doubtless many nematodes are killed by the cold of winter, and perhaps almost as many are killed by the heat and drying that occurs near the soil surface in summer. There are, however, several species of these seemingly delicate creatures with a unique ability to withstand drying; some have been revived from grains of rye that were stored in the dry atmosphere of a laboratory for nearly forty years. Fortunately, they cannot survive a very substantial increase in temperature, and are, therefore, quite easily killed in greenhouses and other places where heat can be applied to the soil.

Not all soil inhabiting nematodes are enemies of man. Many, perhaps the majority, are more or less neutral, and some are fighting allies. Among the latter are species which prefer to eat other nematodes, rather than the roots of plants. We also have allies among the fungi, some of which set tiny traps and catch nematodes for their dinners. Of course, these are just two examples of the biological warfare that is being continuously carried on in the underground darkness of our fields to maintain the balance in nature; a balance which usually permits us to get reasonably good crops, in spite of the root-feeding nematodes.

HOW TO FIGURE OUT THE VALUE OF SILAGE

IN case you have toicker with a neighbor over how much his silage is worth, buy on this basis: corn silage is worth about one-third the price of good alfalfa hay.

So says Dr. Bill Tossell, forage researcher. According to him, "The feeding value of 3 pounds of good corn silage is about equal to the feeding value of 1 pound of good alfalfa hay. If the hay is selling for \$21 a ton, corn silage is worth about \$7 a ton."

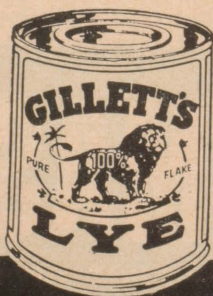
You might still have trouble estimating quantity, but you can get a fair guide by using these figures. A settled column of 14 x 26 feet of silage weight about 70 tons. The density increases as you go towards the bottom and the bottom 10 feet would weigh about 27 tons. From these figures you should be able to calculate approximately how much silage you are buying and its approximate worth.

"I use Gillett's Lye all the time in the poultry pens"



Mr. Robert Shaw, (right) Shaw's Twin Elm Poultry Farm, Mona Road, Ontario, with part of his flock of 2500 De Kalb 101 layers (result of crossing 4 inbred lines).

Mr. Shaw raises all his layers, keeps them for only one season. In an operation the size of Mr. Shaw's, strict sanitation practices can be the difference between profit and loss. Mr. Shaw has found Gillett's Lye to be the most efficient and economical for the prevention of profit-robbing germs and bacteria. He uses it for disinfecting pens, troughs and equipment. "I use Gillett's Lye all the time", says Mr. Shaw.



FREE!

A 60-page booklet prepared by an eminent Canadian Bacteriologist. Tells you how to prevent profit-loss through effective, low cost sanitary practices. Covers every phase of poultry farming. For a free copy write, Standard Brands Limited, 550 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.

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Nuffield Scholars

THE Canadian Federation of Agriculture recently announced that two outstanding young farmers have been selected as the recipients of the 1960 Nuffield Travelling Scholarships. These scholarships, awarded annually by the Nuffield Foundation in the United Kingdom, provide for six months of "on the spot" study and observation of British agriculture with all expenses to be paid by the

Foundation. The winners this year are:

From the east—Lawrence Boyd Yeo, 35, who owns and operates a 175 acre farm at Central, Lot 16, in Prince Edward Island.

From the west—Connor Lawrence "Larry" Edwards, 34, who owns and operates a 2500 acre farm at Three Hills, Alberta.

Lawrence Boyd Yeo is a graduate of Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P.Q., and holds his B.Sc., degree in Agriculture. Mr. Edwards is a graduate of the University of Alberta, where he majored in animal husbandry. Both are veterans of the RCAF, and both were discharged with the same rank, Flight Engineer. They are both married, both have two small children, and in each instance they are active members of the United Church of Canada. Their farming interests are quite similar, despite the obvious difference in acreage, and their interests in farm organizations are such that they will make ideal goodwill ambassadors for Canadian agriculture during their six month study tour in the United Kingdom. They left Canada late in February, and will return in the early fall.

When is a Right a DUTY?

Today everyone enjoys as his birthright, privileges which once were the possession of only a few. But his birthright also includes responsibilities with respect to the privileges he enjoys.

Education is one of the privileges which carry responsibilities. All of us have the responsibility, for example, of helping to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to complete his education, and of seeing that the quality of instruction at our schools and colleges is maintained at a high level.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada is offering, for free distribution, a series of booklets on educational matters of importance. These booklets, issued as a public service, discuss problems in which all of us share responsibility. Inquiries about this series should be addressed to: VALUES IN EDUCATION, SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA, SUN LIFE BUILDING, MONTREAL.

HOW TO HANDLE MANURE IN THE FIELD

WHAT's best?

Some say they like to store manure in a pile. Others feel that daily spreading is better. It may be too late this year to change your system, but here's what the soil specialists say.

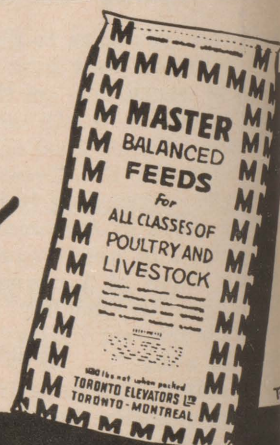
"Daily spreading is better than storing manure in a pile," says Bill Campbell, soils specialist.

- Stored manure ferments and leaches in the pile.
- Fermentation changes $\frac{1}{2}$ the nitrogen to ammonia, which is lost when the pile is opened.
- It's easier to spend $\frac{1}{2}$ hour spreading each day, than a whole week in the spring.
- You have a clean barnyard the year round.

Daily spreading doesn't work in all cases. If the land is hilly or rolling, nutrient losses occur through spring run-off. But there is a trick which helps to control run-off losses; spread manure on the plowed fields only after they're well covered with snow. Another problem in daily spreading is the deep snow of the snow-belt areas.

Now, there's a new problem. Farmers with loafing barns can't move the manure until spring. "The secret here," says Campbell, "is to get the manure worked into the soil before it can dry out." Spreading on a cloudy day or just before a rain is ideal. The lack of sun cuts down on the nitrogen evaporation losses, and the rain dissolves and washes the nitrogen into the soil.

*It's Results
that Count!*



MASTER FEEDS

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Editorial

Is The Relative Decline of Agriculture Inevitable?

IN contrast to the very striking developments which have occurred over the post-war years in almost all segments of the Canadian economy, agriculture has, at least in terms of financial measures, fared very badly. Gross national product in dollar terms has doubled since 1949; and increased by close to 50 per cent in real terms. The civilian labour force has risen from five million to 6,200,000. Real disposable income in the hands of households and individuals rose by some 55 per cent. The speed and character of the growth of the economy have been such that the country has been gravely concerned over the past three years about inflationary forces. Yet that farmer is receiving prices lower than those of ten years ago, and while his cash income is some 20 per cent higher than in 1949, his real income has fallen by more than one-fourth. However, the industry has made giant strides in the direction of rationalizing production and adjusting to what many consider is its inevitable role as a declining industry in a rapidly expanding economy.

But is the relative decline of agriculture inevitable? If so, can agriculture make the necessary adjustments without excessive pain and cost?

Here are the most apparent reasons for the decline theory. In the first place, because of the extremely low response of expenditures on farm products to changes in consumer incomes (about 0.2 per cent at the farm level for each one per cent increase in incomes), the rapid increase in real incomes in the non-farm sector of the economy conveys little benefit to agriculture. In other words, a large part of any increased income in the hands of consumers goes to automobiles, television, recreation and travel—and little to food. Professor T. W. Schultz, of the University of Chicago, has shown that if, over the post-war years the increase in demand for farm products had been only half as fast as the growth of real consumer in-

comes, then there would be no farm problem in the United States as that problem is known today—in other words, no surpluses and incomes more nearly comparable to those of non-farm workers. This is also true of Canada.

Secondly, Canadian agriculture, while it has made extremely rapid technical progress over the last two decades, is still confronted with a large unused supply of technical knowledge. For these reasons the general outlook is not favourable.

History is replete with examples of declining industries. And the lot of the owners of these industries and workers in them has been dismal. But do we have the capacity to make the necessary adjustments in agriculture without the usual pain? On the production side there is hope for some. It is provided by the fact that technological developments in agriculture tend to require large amounts of capital. This means large farm units, more highly capitalized farm units, and achievement of greater farm output per worker in agriculture. Individual farmers who achieve efficiency in this sense have some assurance that they may overcome the marketing problems created by more production. The wheat farm organized on the basis of annual production of 6,000 to 10,000 bushels per man, or the dairy farm which achieves a production of 200,000 to 250,000 pounds of milk per man, generally has the overall efficiency to yield a good living, even with today's prices.

Thus the general prospect for agriculture over the next ten years is one which implies some restrained optimism for the most productive commercial segment of the industry. On the other hand, the prospect for the small farm, the part-time farm and the subsistence farm is likely to continue as poor as it has over the past decade. However, we should expect some improvement for these farmers due to the increased opportunity for off-farm work. In Eastern Canada this has been of real importance over the past decade.

How then do we aid in the adjustment process and, at the same time, get efficient food production? Certainly not by forcing output restrictions on our larger scale more efficient farmers. It is both hoped and expected that the present use of price supports on hogs and poultry to injure these producers will not last long. In fact it may be best just to clear the track and let your larger farmers go it alone—without government help or harm, excepting for such programming as The Canadian Board and Farm Credit Assistance. This would mean that farm policy could concentrate on aiding the adjustments on small to medium-sized farms.

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR QUEBEC CATTLEMEN

IMPORTANT news to all is the fact that your Quebec Aberdeen Angus Association now has the services of a fieldman in the person of Mr. Bruce McKellar of Dewittville. He is well known in the beef cattle industry in Canada. He is the past President of the Association as well as the past President of the Quebec Beef Cattle Ass'n., Eastern Director of the Canadian Association and beef representative on many fair boards throughout the province.

His job is to assist both established breeders as well as new ones with their problems. He has operated one of the largest Angus herds in the Province for a long time and has a sizeable pig operation going as well. He is one of the pioneers in permanent pasture management so that his experience may be helpful to you in more than just your cattle problems. Since he is circulating amongst Angus in the Province he may be able to assist you in locating cattle or disposing of some.

You are invited to make use of his services. Simply phone or write him at the above address, and he will arrange to call on you at a convenient time.

Good Luck, Bruce!



THE MACDONALD LASSIE